

VSH Governing Body Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2008, 1:30 pm

Nursing Classroom, 5 South Building

Type of meeting: Oversight

Facilitator: Michael Hartman, Commissioner of Mental Health (1:30 to 3:00 pm) Beth Tanzman, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Health (3:00 to 3:30 pm)

Note taker: Denise McCarty

Governing Body Members: Dr. William McMains; Beth Tanzman, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Health; Patrick Flood (Designee for Secretary Cindy LaWare); Kate Purcell; Terry Rowe, Dr. Tom Simpatico,

Attendees: Jessica Oski, Wendy Beinner, Scott Perry

AGENDA TOPICS: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT; MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT; QUALITY MANAGEMENT REPORT; REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES; OTHER BUSINESS; PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussed: Approval of Meeting Minutes

The March 19th meeting minutes were reviewed by the committee members. Patrick Flood motioned to accept the minutes as presented. William McMains seconded the motion. All in favor of accepting the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussed: Executive Director's Report (with Terry Rowe)

TR would like to discuss the Policy Development process when public members are here so that the Governing Body Committee is not used as a forum to discuss policies in the same detail as the Policy Committee.

TR gave an update of the CMS (Center for Medicare and Medication Services) survey application. Once the application is approved, one state and one federal survey team are appointed to complete two separate on-site surveys.

We are ready for the Joint Commission to do an on-site survey. Our lead person, Tommie Murray is on vacation this week and next week but in the event they arrive while she is out, Fletcher Allen staff are willing to assist us during the survey.

The DOJ report came out this week and the report is very good. We have sustained compliance in several areas and we are in compliance with every aspect of the initial legal compliance report.

We are reviewing the NAPPI trainings. The training does not equip staff with the skills to manage large and aggressive patients.

(End Executive Director Report)

Discussed: VSH Policies -

Due to Michael Hartman needing to leave for the legislature the Governing Body decided to address any items on the agenda that needed voting on.

Visitor's Policy Draft 1.6 – Interim Policy – The policy was reviewed by the Governing Body Committee. The Visiting times were discussed by the members. Kate Purcell made a motion to accept the visitor's policy draft 1.6, Michael seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

VSH Patient Work Policy draft 1.5 – Interim - The Governing Body reviewed the policy. MH asked what “screen for appropriateness to work” meant. What were the clinical issues of where a person could work versus what if they were not doing a good job? The Governing Body discussed this issue further. MH suggested that we make sure that we are using the best employment practices. He suggested contacting Laura Flynt, the statewide employment person to get more information on “inpatient employment models”.

TR made this policy interim. The Governing Body requested that this policy be revised and brought back to the committee in May to review again.

Professional Behavior and Personal Boundaries Policy Draft 1.5 – Interim – The Governing Body reviewed this policy. Discussion followed about concerns with gift giving. The Governing Body suggested to clarify receiving gifts from patients (a gesture, something made, flowers, etc.) and clarify that any reported potential violations of boundaries by a staff member would be reviewed and may result in a staff member being reassigned or removed. The Governing Body requested that this policy be revised and brought back to the committee in May to review again.

Medical Director's Report (by Dr. Thomas Simpatico) - There are two psychiatrist credentialing packets to be reviewed by the Governing Body for approval. Dr. Robert Althoff and Dr. Seymour Leven. Dr. Althoff is being added to the VSH on-call doctors pool. He is a brilliant, solid, guy, a real “star”. Dr. Seymour Leven has been hired as a Locum Tenem to help cover Dr. Duncan's leave of absence and will work in July and August to cover vacations. The credentialing packets were circulated to review by the committee members while Tom finished his director's report.

Dr. Gordon Gieg is interested in the general medicine position here at VSH and has made application.

The VSH Medical Staff Bylaws are currently being reviewed by the risk assessment manager at Fletcher Allen (Bruce Hawkins). He should be done with reviewing them by the end of the week, so far the feedback from him is good.

Medical Students – We currently have two medical students at VSH. Two medical students will be at VSH for two-three week blocks of time continuously. Dr. Batra will be oversee the medical student orientation.

TS explained a cognitive theory research – Attention training games are being used to engage patients at this point. These games may prove useful to enhance certain cognitive frontal lobe functions and may be a subject of research in the future.

Michael Hartman motioned to approve the credentialing packets on Dr. Althoff and Dr. Leven. William McMains seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Other Business – Michael Hartman gave a legislative update on Act 114 before he left the meeting.

Quality Management Report (with Scott Perry)

Scott provided patient and staff injury data, variance, and patient grievance information. SP also provided restraint and seclusion data and Emergency Involuntary Medication data. Discussion followed (copies of these handouts are available by request).

(End of Quality Management Report)

Public Comment – There were no members of the public at today’s meeting.

WM made a motion to adjourn the meeting. PF seconded the motion. All in favour, motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm. The next Governing Body meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 1:30 pm in the Nursing Classroom, 5 South Building.**

Respectfully submitted,

Denise McCarty
Minute Taker